

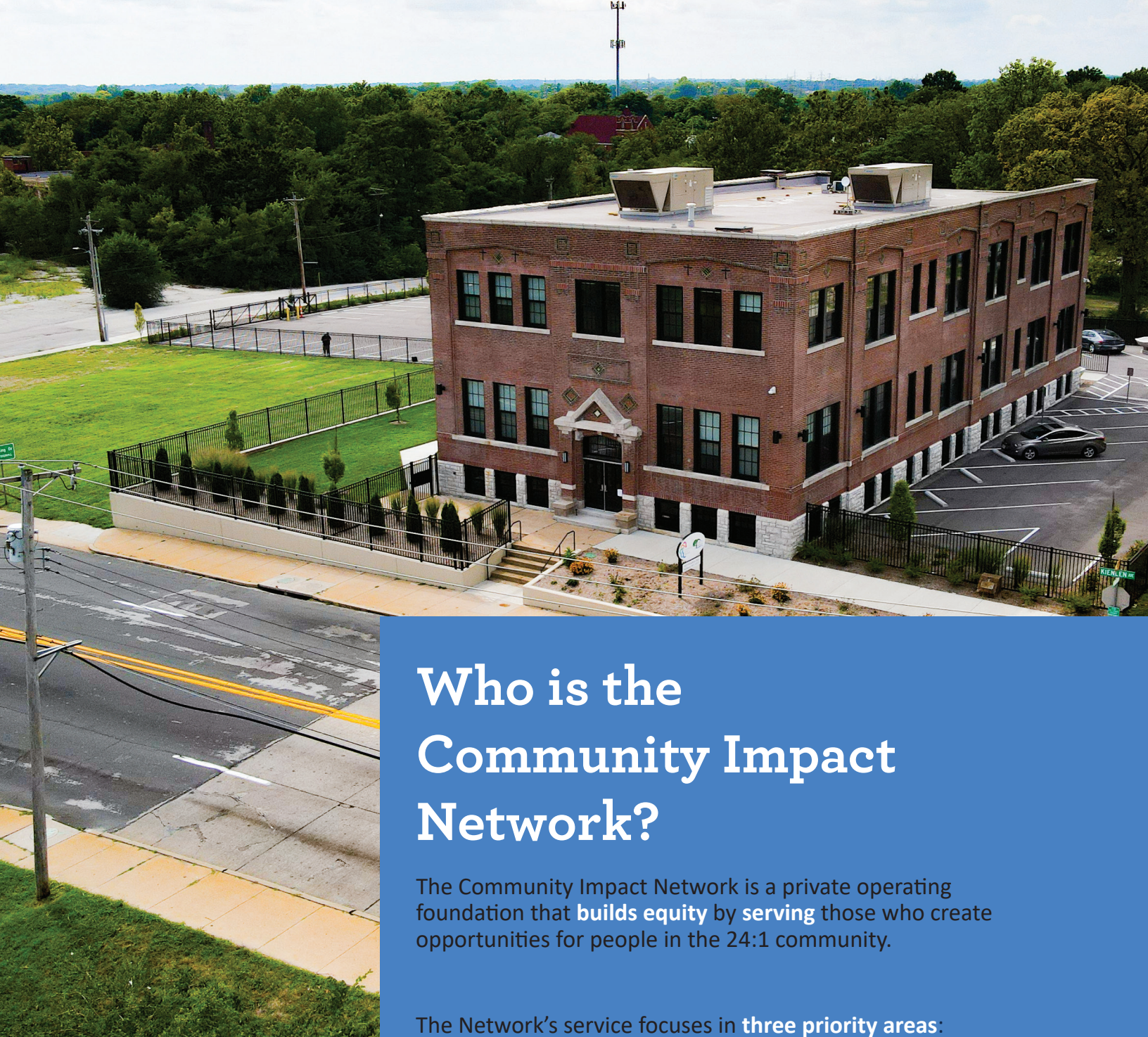


# Annual Report

20  
23

A year of collaboration,  
growth, and service in  
the 24:1 community.





# Who is the Community Impact Network?

The Community Impact Network is a private operating foundation that **builds equity** by **servicing** those who create opportunities for people in the 24:1 community.

The Network's service focuses in **three priority areas**:

- **Learning** - creating opportunities for people to **access quality early childhood education**
- **Living** - creating opportunities for people to meet their **basic needs**
- **Legacy** - creating opportunities for people and communities to leave a positive legacy and move through the **housing continuum**

# VISION: Build Equity

We build equity through **service**.

We build equity for individuals that make **life** possible for us all.

## How does the Network serve?

- Creating spaces and places where transformational relationships are built.
- We serve from the voice of the community and partners.
- The Network leverages trusting relationships of partners to create spaces and places where a broad spectrum of services can be delivered.

## The Network serves in **3** ways:

### LISTENING

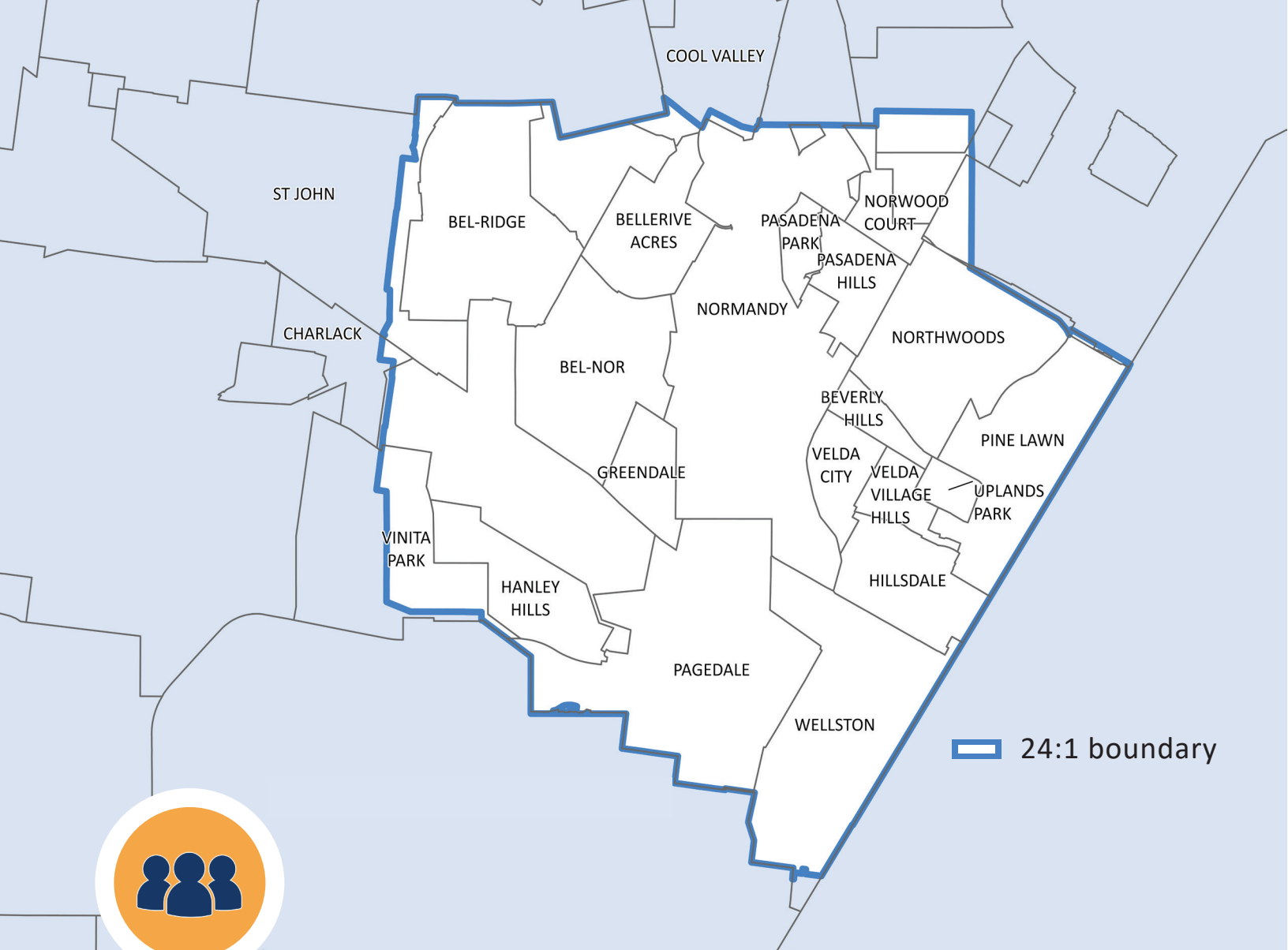
We listen to community stakeholders to shape how we serve and what we invest in.

### COLLABORATING

We collaborate with others to align around shared objectives, craft solutions and overcome challenges.

### INVESTING

We invest financial, strategic and organizational resources in our priority areas.



## The Network serves residents who make up the 24:1 area



households  
**15,041**



number of kids under 18  
**8,638**



population of kids in households enrolled in K-12 public school  
**67.3%**

# 33,280

population of the 24:1 community

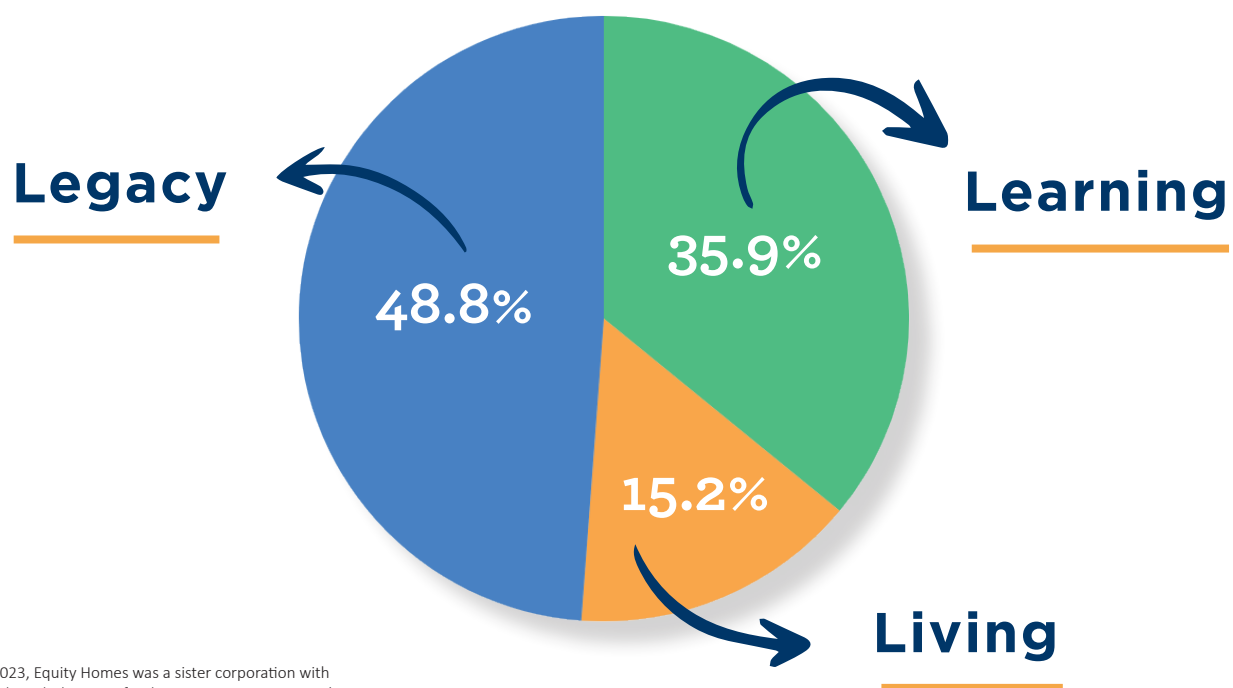
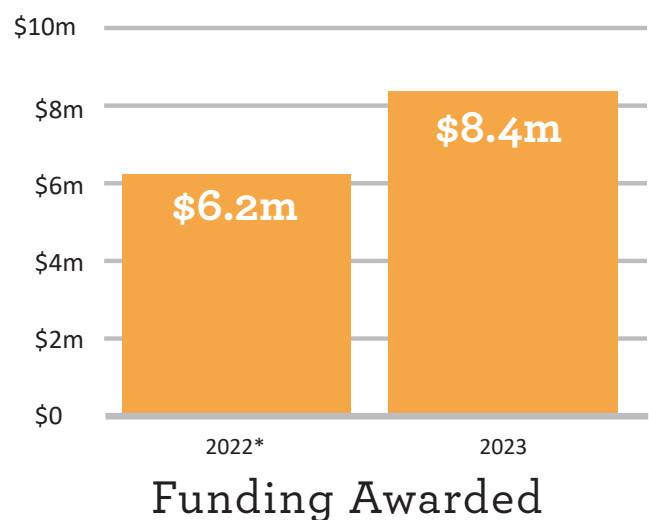
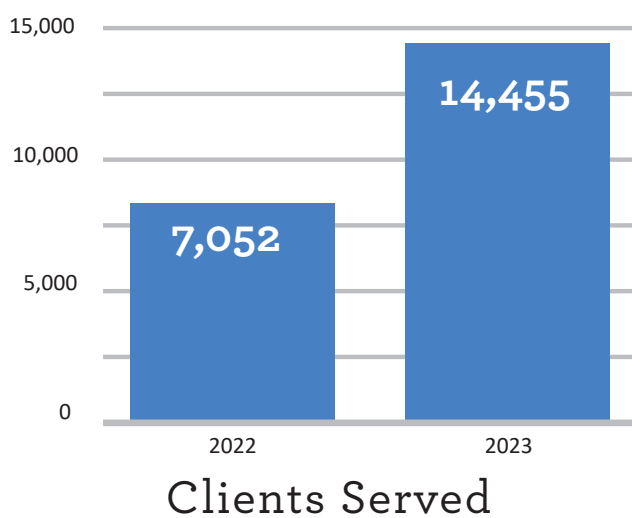
### Race

Black or African American: 26,935  
Two or more races: 880  
White: 4,607  
Other race: 858

# A year of **GROWTH**

The Community Impact Network advanced its vision of building equity in the 24:1 area by serving more clients in organizational history in 2023.

From 2022 to 2023, the Network doubled the number of clients served in the 24:1 community, and our investment in the community continues to increase.



\*Prior to 2023, Equity Homes was a sister corporation with the Network, with the same funding source. Equity Homes' funding is included in the 2022 totals to accurately compare the amount awarded to funded members in 2022 and 2023.

# Funded Services

## Serving the 24:1 community together

The Network serves the 24:1 community by offering to assist the community in achieving its goals. Funded member organizations make a difference through supporting the Network’s priority areas: Learning, Living and Leaving a Legacy.

### Learning - Healthy Babies and Caregivers

#### Belle Children’s Services of St. Louis Arc

Belle Children’s Services of St. Louis Arc (Belle) serves children from birth to six years old, particularly those with developmental delays and disabilities. In 2023, the Network funded developmental screenings for 554 children in the 24:1 area, an increase from 342 in 2022.

Those screenings are sessions where Belle specialists identify developmental delays or disabilities so they can start serving those children as early as possible. Studies show that the earlier these issues are treated, the better off a child will be for life. Belle specialists are embedded in numerous schools in the area, and they consistently communicate and collaborate with staff at those schools.

Learn more about Belle at [slarc.org](http://slarc.org).

#### Nurses for Newborns

Nurses for Newborns (NFN) provides registered nurse case managers who serve new parents from the time they find out they are pregnant until their child is two years old. In 2023, the Network funded 269 nurse visits to newborns and their families in the 24:1 area, an increase from 213 in 2022.

NFN strives to serve at-risk families, and provides services at no cost to families. In addition to assessing an infant’s health, NFN’s nurses also provide mothers with health assessments,



The benefits have been exponential. The more information that we get, the more that we can disperse to centers, teachers and directors so that they’re taking advantage of all of the community supports that we have.

**Dana Walker**  
Director of Children’s Services



screenings for depression and more. NFN has met with multiple Network Members to collaborate on increasing awareness and enrollment of their services. Thus far, they have worked with St. Louis Integrated Health Network, Parents as Teachers and United 4 Children to reach more families.

Learn more about NFN at [nursesfornewborns.org](https://nursesfornewborns.org).

## Parents as Teachers

Parents as Teachers (PAT) provides services that support parents, families and caregivers from birth to age five. In 2023, the Network funded services for 132 families in the 24:1 area, an increase from 103 in 2022.

Through a home visiting program and a suite of professional resources and classes for parents, PAT hopes to increase parent knowledge, prepare children for school and improve families' economic well-being. PAT instituted Spanish-speaking events in 2023 to allow Spanish-speaking families to come together and build relationships and support systems with each other. PAT has also built relationships with apartment complexes, resulting in family recruitment, rental apartments for families, and recently, organizations attending a resource fair that had housing resources to share with families.

Learn more about PAT at [parentsasteachers.org](https://parentsasteachers.org).

## United 4 Children

United 4 Children (U4C) supports early learning centers and at-home Family Childcare Centers with educational courses, grants and technical assistance. The Network supports the Programs Achieving Quality (PAQ) program, which provides high-quality support to childcare programs through early childhood educator coaching, lesson planning, networking opportunities, parent education classes and more.



Photo courtesy of United 4 Children

At the end of 2023, 1,050 children were enrolled in PAQ centers and outreach providers.

Learn more about U4C at [united4children.org](https://united4children.org).

# Learning - Educational Resources

## STL Youth Jobs

STL Youth Jobs (STLYJ) connect 16 to 24-year-olds in the 24:1 area with summer jobs. Since 2013, STLYJ has partnered with more than 250 employers from restaurants including construction companies, banks, real estate agencies and more. In 2023, 40 students from the Normandy Schools Collaborative (NSC) completed the program.

The Network also worked with STLYJ to build an established and solid relationship with NSC and administrators at Normandy High School. Two Normandy students also served as leader ambassadors in STL Youth Jobs Youth Ambassador Program, where they assisted with recruitment activities, job training and mentoring.

Learn more about STLYJ at [stlyouthjobs.org](http://stlyouthjobs.org).

## The Legacy Center

The Legacy Center (TLC) opened its doors in 2023, to provide broader opportunities for youth by serving youth, educators and community members. Through after-school programming, summer camps, college fairs, professional development for educators and more, TLC seeks to build equity in the 24:1.



Photo courtesy of The Legacy Center

Based on the number of participants in the first year of TLC's existence, it's clear there was a need for the organization's services. Summer camp was offered at no cost to families, and TLC had 117 children register for the camp, ahead of its goal of 100 participants.

TLC organized two professional development events that benefited 70 educators. Other events included the Bi-Annual Maternal Health Forum

to coordinating two holiday events for seniors. TLC has seamlessly integrated itself into the everyday fabric of the 24:1 community.

Learn more about TLC at [legacystl.org](http://legacystl.org).



# Living - Basic Needs

## Beyond Housing - Family Engagement Liaisons

Family Engagement Liaisons (FELs) work through Normandy Schools Collaborative and Beyond Housing to connect public school students and their families to resources. In 2023, the Network funded services for 3,587 basic needs supports based on one-on-one meetings between FELs and students, an increase from 3,002 in 2022.

Research shows that instability at home contributes to lower attendance and worse academic outcomes, so FELs work to make life easier for families as well as students. They connect families with resources to help parents meet their basic needs, which in turn helps students stay in school.

Learn more about FELs at [beyondhousing.org](https://beyondhousing.org).

## Epworth Drop-In Center

Epworth Children and Family Services operates a youth drop-in center and a pantry that provides resources to youth and their families experiencing housing and food insecurity. In 2023, the Network funded services for 875 homeless or at-risk youth, surpassing the drop-in center's goal of 500.

The Drop-In Center provides more than just a place to come after school. Case managers work with youth to identify life and stability goals and then guide them toward those goals. Epworth works to get young people into stable housing, and was able to secure stable long-term housing for 15 clients in 2023.

Learn more about Epworth at [epworth.org](https://epworth.org).

## St. Louis Area Diaper Bank

The St. Louis Area Diaper Bank seeks to build healthy communities by ending diaper need and period poverty through access, education and advocacy. In 2023, the Network funded the distribution of 103,375 diapers and 21,180 period products in the 24:1 area.

Diaper Bank continues to expand its services, including Potty Training 101, a program at St. Louis County Library locations where Diaper Bank distributed potty training kits.

Learn more about Diaper Bank at [stldiaperbank.org](https://stldiaperbank.org).



A Normandy High School student was experiencing ongoing issues. The student was working on getting into Job Corps and was frustrated and struggling to meet all their requirements. Within two weeks of working with a Street Outreach Case Manager, the student had a scheduled entry date. They are currently at Job Corps and doing well.

**Epworth Staff Report**



# Legacy - Community Investment

## Beyond Housing - Housing Resource Coordinators

Beyond Housing's Housing Resource Coordinators (HRC) provide supportive services such as financial advising, continued education, referrals for children, employment and more to all residents in Beyond Housing rental units.

In 2023, HRC provided 1,800 services to over 550 families. They helped clients increase their credit scores, increase their income, become homeowners and reach other financial and residential goals.

Over the course of 2023, Beyond Housing restructured the program in an effort to serve more families and clients. This updated service delivery model is called Transformative Services Department (TSD), which Beyond Housing believes will provide more comprehensive support to clients.

Learn more about Beyond Housing at [beyondhousing.org](https://beyondhousing.org).

## Rebuilding Together

Rebuilding Together (a national organization with a St. Louis affiliate) makes essential repairs to houses so residents can safely remain in their homes. In the Network's first year providing funding to Rebuilding Together-St. Louis, the organization completed work for three households in Wellston.

The three completed households received home repairs completed by volunteers and contractors. Home repairs included roofing, siding, carpentry, decking, landscape removal, electrical, plumbing and more. Repairs focused on increasing the household members' safety, health and independence.

As the calendar turned to 2024, Rebuilding Together-St. Louis continues the process of working on a few more homes in Wellston. Work has been identified, bid out, and bids have been received for the remaining two Wellston households, with work to be completed in 2024.

Learn more about Rebuilding Together at [rebuildingtogether-stl.org](https://rebuildingtogether-stl.org).



"I just cannot express how happy I am with the work that you guys did for me. I appreciate it so much. This time last year, my yard was a jungle and everything. I just never thought that I'd have all of this. It's just amazing! I will never forget the work that you did for me."

**Ms. K**  
**Rebuilding Together Client,**  
**Home Owner in Wellston**



## Equity Homes

Equity Homes provides catalytic renovation and constructive demolition projects in the 24:1 to make neighborhoods safer while building equity for individuals and their communities, in partnership with 24:1 municipalities.

In 2023, Equity Homes completed five renovations and 77 demolitions. In early 2024, Equity Homes will complete its 500th single-family demolition in the 24:1 since 2016.

### Affordable single-family home ownership

Equity Homes offers affordable quality renovated homes to individuals and families who want to own, rather than rent, their home. These homes include a brand-new kitchen and bath cabinets, interior doors, fixtures, appliances, windows, roofs, plumbing, electric wiring, HVAC and more.



Homes have been carefully inspected and renovated to meet current code requirements and ensure that the home is sound and in great condition. The homes are move-in ready and include all appliances, plus a washer and dryer.

Homes are offered for sale as an owner-occupied primary residence for individuals and families.

### Safer neighborhoods through demolitions

Demolition of vacant houses and properties has been shown to improve property values, decrease crime and make neighborhoods more attractive to residents and businesses.



In close collaboration with municipalities, law enforcement officials and other community leaders, Equity Homes assesses houses that pose challenges to the broader community. Equity Homes serves as a contractor hired by local municipalities to conduct demolitions.

All demolitions are completed at almost no cost to municipalities. Municipalities often sell the cleared properties back to the community to use as a green space or garden. In some cases, the lots are used to attract new homeowners and residents.

# By the numbers

## Our Impact

In 2023, we added Network members who made a major impact in the 24:1.



**500+**  
demolitions of  
unsafe homes  
since 2016

**5**  
housing  
renovations

**5,083**  
meals  
served at  
Epworth  
Drop-in  
Center



**100%**  
of services  
support  
the 24:1

**75+**  
Network  
members

**103,375**  
diapers  
distributed

**117**  
kids who  
attended  
summer camp  
at no cost to  
families

**8**

new nonprofits  
joined the  
Network in  
2023

**404**

families referred  
to other Network  
Members by  
Beyond Housing  
Family Engagement  
Liaisons



**1,723**

personal  
home visits  
conducted  
by Parents  
as Teachers

**99**

partner  
agencies  
distributed  
diapers in 24:1  
ZIP codes  
throughout  
the year

Belle Children's Services  
screened **554** children for  
developmental delays.

Many children were  
rescreened later in the  
year and **198** of **200** were  
showing improvements after  
intervention.

**12**

Network  
Member  
meetings,  
trainings  
and events

**25,820**

basic need items  
provided to

**4,021**

students and families by  
Beyond Housing's Family  
Engagement Liaisons




# Network events

## Maintaining a presence in the community

Over the course of 2023, the Network hosted events for Network members and attended community celebrations. At these events, Network staff gained a greater knowledge of the 24:1, helped spread the word about the work of Network members, and uplifted and supported direct service providers.

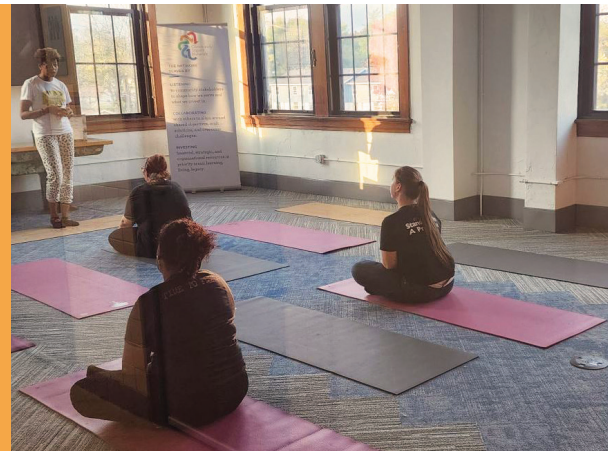
### Wellness in the Field

In October, the Network hosted its first-ever Wellness in the Field event at the Network building. Direct service providers — individuals who work directly with clients — in the Network were invited for a day of self-care. The event offered massages, sound baths, yoga, a group counseling session, subscriptions to mental health resources, drawing, dinner and more. The event, which was very popular, was exactly in line with the Network’s mission to serve those who serve 24:1 residents.



“The Wellness event was so transformative for my own wellness journey! I was so excited I arrived half an hour early to be the first person to sign up for massages. As a direct service provider in my job and caretaker of my elderly mother, I very rarely get time for myself. The impacts of physically and mentally not caring for myself are hitting me really, really hard right now. The wellness event was finally time for ME, at a cost I could afford (free, I couldn’t believe it). Also, the location was perfect as I work and live in the 24:1.”

**Attendee Feedback**



### Beyond the Backpack

Beyond Housing’s annual Beyond the Backpack event on Aug. 5 was a one-stop shop for students’ back-to-school needs. Network staff volunteered at the event in addition to helping organize it. Students received school supplies, backpacks, physicals, haircuts and tennis shoes. In collaboration with Sneakers with Soul, the provider of the tennis shoes, approximately 1,400 footwear items were distributed to students.

### Network happy hour

In September, a Network Happy Hour at In Da Loop Restaurant and Bar in the Delmar Loop took the place of the monthly Network meeting. Members in attendance shared laughs and conversation over drinks and pizza, and multiple collaborations sprouted from people meeting at the event.

## National Parents as Teachers conference

Vice President of Engagement, Neosha Franklin and Director of Service, Ailey Pope were presenters at the 2023 national Parents as Teachers conference in New Orleans in October.

Their presentation titled “Charting a path for collaboration: How the creation of a community network set the stage for community transformation” highlighted ways to prioritize equity while engaging and listening to community, as well as collaborating with others and leading in community.



## Pagedale Community Festival

In September, Network staff participated in the City of Pagedale Community Festival. Director of Service, Ailey Pope and Service Coordinator, Gabby Ochoa were a part of the parade, while Community Liaison, Brian Krueger grilled hot dogs. The community festival is a wonderful event every September and Network staff is always honored to be involved.

## Normandy 100th anniversary celebration

In September, Network staff attended the Normandy Alumni Association’s celebration marking the 100th anniversary of Normandy High School. Service Coordinator Gabby Ochoa and Communications Coordinator Alex McCarthy hosted a table and promoted Network members to attendees. It was a fantastic event with a great turnout, hosted at The Legacy Center.



# Service providers shine at Network awards event

Guests from the NSC footprint joined the Network in a night dedicated to honoring direct service providers

The Network celebrated the exceptional contributions of direct service providers during its second annual “A Night With the Stars” event on Dec. 8. Hosted by Emmy-winning personality Jade Harrell and featuring guest speakers Winston Calvert, President and CEO of the Network, and Julius B. Anthony, Founder of St. Louis Black Authors of Children’s Literature, the ceremony recognized the pivotal role of these individuals who provide direct, face-to-face

services within the 24:1.

Nine individuals received awards out of 24 nominees. Awardees ranged from a 14-year-old activist to retired educators who are still making a difference in classrooms.

The 14-year-old awardee, Legacy Jackson, inspired the Network to create a new award called the Emerging Changemaker Award, which honors young people in the 24:1 who are making a positive impact.



Award ceremony photos by Phillip Hamer Photography



# A Night with the Stars Award Recipients

## Teamwork Award

Individuals who demonstrate the ability to seek out and engage in innovative collaborations with other service providers, no matter how “small” the collaboration may be.



(L to R): Mary Saunders, program manager for street outreach at Epworth Children and Family Services; Amanda Mitchell, program manager at the Core Collective at Saint Vincent; and Jacqueline Buck-Horton, Beyond Housing Board of Directors.

## Listening Award

Individuals who show an extraordinary dedication to engaging with the community and actively listening to those they serve.



(L to R): Relda Owens-Mathews, education support counselor for BJC Behavioral Health; Jenn Deaton, lead outreach worker at the Epworth Children and Family Services Drop-In Center in Normandy; and Jessica Burton, occupancy specialist at Beyond Housing.

## Solutions Award and Emerging Changemaker

Individuals who have crafted unique, creative or unorthodox solutions to challenges that they, their organization or those they serve were facing.



(L to R): Mia Turner, community health worker at Nurses for Newborns; Marcia Hayes-Harris, family engagement liaison at Beyond Housing; and Legacy Jackson (Emerging Changemaker awardee), founder of Little Legacies Community Service Organization.

# Our network, our team, our community

Thank you to our Network members, team and community who share an abiding passion of making the 24:1 a better place to learn, live and leave a legacy — today, tomorrow and in the future.

## LEARNING

The Network is committed to creating opportunities for people to access quality early childhood education.

### Healthy Babies, Toddlers, & Caregivers

Bethany Christian Services  
BJC Raising St. Louis  
Fathers and Families Support Center  
First Steps  
FLOURISH  
Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition  
Generate Health  
Infant Loss Resources  
Lutheran Family and Children's Services  
Nurses for Newborns  
Parents as Teachers  
St. Louis County's Nurse-Family Partnership

### Early Childhood Education

Belle Children's Services of St. Louis Arc  
Delta Gamma Center  
KornerStone Kids Preschool  
The Leadership School  
Normandy Early Learning Center  
S.T.A.R. for Early Childhood Educators  
United 4 Children  
University of Missouri St. Louis - University Child Development Center

Williams Academy STL  
YWCA Head Start/Early Head Start

### Adult Education

U&I Rise

### Educational Resources

Beyond Housing Family Engagement Liaisons  
Blueprint 4  
Book Book Go  
Create a Loop  
Girls, Inc.  
Girls on the Run  
Lead STL  
Missouri Historical Society  
Nine PBS  
The Noble Neighbor  
Normandy Schools Collaborative  
Ready Readers  
The Regional Business Council/The Legacy Center  
Smart Kids, Inc.  
Special School District of St. Louis County  
St. Louis Black Authors of Children's Literature  
Vision for Children at Risk  
Youth in Need

### Financial Literacy

Money Smart School of Finance for Children

## Job Readiness

Boys and Girls Club  
Mission: St. Louis  
Per Scholas  
Propel Kitchens  
St. Louis Artworks  
STL Youth Jobs  
The SoulFisher Ministries

## LIVING

The Network is committed to creating opportunities for people to meet their basic needs.

## Basic Needs

A Red Circle  
Epworth Children and Family Services  
Gateway to Oral Health Foundation  
Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry  
Keep Pushing, Inc.  
Legal Services of Eastern Missouri  
The Little Bit Foundation  
National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis  
Operation Food Search  
Pink Ribbon Girls  
PreventEd  
Sneakers with Soul  
The Society of St. Vincent De Paul  
St. Augustine Wellston Center  
St. Louis Area Diaper Bank  
St. Louis County Library - Natural Bridge Branch

## Safety

North County Police Cooperative

## Short-term Housing

The Core Collective at St. Vincent  
Epworth Children and Family Services  
Drop-in Center

## Mental Health

Behavioral Health Response  
Family Forward  
Our Little Haven  
Places for People  
Prodigal House Ministry

St. Louis Integrated Health Network  
St. Louis Regional Health Commission

## LEGACY

The Network is committed to creating opportunities for people and communities to leave a positive legacy and move through the housing continuum.

## Housing

Equity Homes  
Housing Resource Coordinators  
Rebuilding Together St. Louis

## THE NETWORK TEAM


Courtney Corman, *Director of Data & Analytics*  
Alice Davis-Wiley, *Service Impact Manager*  
Casey Dupent, *Office/HR Manager*  
Neosha Franklin, *Chief Executive Officer*  
Kayla Gillispie, *Multimedia Specialist*  
Brian Krueger, *Community Liaison*  
Wayne Knight, *Chief Financial Officer*  
Morgan LeBaige, *Data Manager*  
Lonette Lowary, *Service Coordinator*  
Alex McCarthy, *Communications Coordinator*  
Michelle McClure, *Front Desk Coordinator*  
Gabby Ochoa, *Network Manager*  
Natasha Olufson, *Executive Assistant*  
Ailey Pope, *Vice President of Service*  
Kim Price, *Accounts Payable Coordinator*  
Nikki Williams, *Executive Assistant*

## CREDITS


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